

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6524

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013

PRODUCTION OF CHICKPEA

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the production of chickpea and the area under its cultivation in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether India is one of the largest producer and consumer of chickpea in the world and if so, the comparative details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has launched any project for a systematic and concerted research on chickpea;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the other innovative measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote the cultivation of this crop in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARIQ ANWAR)

(a): State-wise details of area and production of chickpea (gram) during each of the last three years and the current year i.e. 2009-10 to 2012-13 are given in the Annexure.

(b): Yes, Madam. As per the latest report of Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) for 2011, India is the largest producer and consumer of chickpeas in the world. The details of production of chickpea in India vis-a-vis other major chickpea producing countries in the World are as under:-

Country	Production (000 tonnes)
India	8221.10
Australia	513.34
Myanmar	466.74
Turkey	487.48
Ethiopia	322.84
Pakistan	496.00
Islamic Republic of Iran	290.24
Canada	90.80
United Republic of Tanzania	71.18

Note:- Figures for India are as per official estimates for 2010-11.

(c) & (d): Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) undertakes systematic and concerted research on chickpea through its on-going plan projects under Indian Institute of Pulses Research (IIPR), Kanpur and All India Coordinated Research Project on Chickpea. The research programme includes basic and strategic research for development of location-specific climate resilient high yielding chickpea varieties and improved production and protection technologies. A total of 13 high yielding varieties of chickpea have been released during the last three years. In addition, 3078 tonnes of breeder seeds of improved varieties of chickpea were also produced for multiplication of certified seeds so as to ensure the supply of quality seeds to the farmers.

(e): In order to increase the production and productivity of pulses including chickpea in the country, the Government of India is implementing several Crop Development Schemes Programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM-Pulses), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), etc. National Food Security Mission has been strengthened from 1.4.2010 with the merger of pulses component of Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM). In addition, a new programme 'Accelerated Pulses Production Programme (A3P)' has been started under NFSM since 2010-11 to take up active propagation of key technologies in the form of block demonstrations for improving productivity of pulses. Further, a Special Plan to achieve more than 19 million tonnes of pulse production during 2012-13 has also been initiated.